Human Graph

The Human Graph (or Human Continuum) is a pre-assessment that lets you find out your student’s initial level of knowledge, skills, interests, and attitudes. This information will help you plan your instruction at the most appropriate level for each student.

In addition, your students will be motivated and involved as they become partners in the learning process. They’ll gain a better sense of what they already know as well as a clearer idea of what they need to know. Use this strategy to supplement one you might already be using – quizzes, questions, observation, etc. – in pre-assessing your students.

# How it works:

1. Place cards at the front you’re your classroom (perhaps along the top of the chalkboard) labeled along a continuum as follows:
   * I know this!
   * I know something about this!
   * I don’t know much about this!
2. On the floor in front of the cards, make a line with masking tape.
3. Ask students to stand on the masking tape, positioning themselves so each student is near the card that best describes his/her understanding of the content.
4. Ask each student to turn to a neighbor and discuss what s/he knows about the topic and/or why s/he chose to stand where s/he did. Or have the students share with the whole class.

With this quick and simple activity, you’ve already pre-assessed the students helped them learn how to assess themselves, and developed a basis for differentiating your instruction of this subject. You could even take a picture of the students as a means to reflect later.



**I know this!**

**I know something**

**about this!**

**I don’t know**

**much about this!**